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A Special Weekly Report From The Wall Street Journal's Capital Bureau

BATTLES LOOM over Reagan nominees for many judicial slots.

Senate liberals question such expected nominations as John Noonan, a professor and anti-abortion editor, and former Legal Services Corp. Chairman William Harvey to federal appeals courts. Meanwhile, conservatives still hold up the nomination of former SEC enforcer Stanley Sporkin while they check his role as CIA counsel in obtaining a lawyer for an agency official accused of a leak.

of a leak.

The Judiciary Committee also girds for a fight over the rumored nomination of Christian activist Herbert Ellingwood to be an assistant attorney general. He would play a major role in selection of future judges, and liberal groups fear he might impose a religious test. Some GOP senators, fearing a messy battle, quietly suggest that Dole not force the nomination.